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for 35 Years

The Tech

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of Technology

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CAMBRIDGE, MASS., TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 1917

Price Five Cents

Half-a-Million is Too Much For Chemist in Tech Show---Played in Somerville Last Night

Boston Sees Big Performance of "Not a Chance" at National

LOCAL SETTING

The Boston performances of the Tech Show, which were given last Saturday afternoon and evening at the National Theatre, drew larger audiences than any previous year. The performances at Northampton were also a success, although it was necessary to make a change in the cast due to the illness of C. J. Parsons '19, who could not be present on account of tonsillitis. Henry G. Dooley '20, although he had less than a week of preparation, took Parsons' place. Dooley was commandeered from the orchestra at the last minute and gave a very creditable performance both in Northampton and in Boston.

In Boston everything went well until the third act, when, according to the general manager, Claudius Roberts, somebody lost a rope and they had to send back to Northampton after it. The real trouble was, however, that some careless stagehand had forgotten which drop came next and had in truth lost a rope.

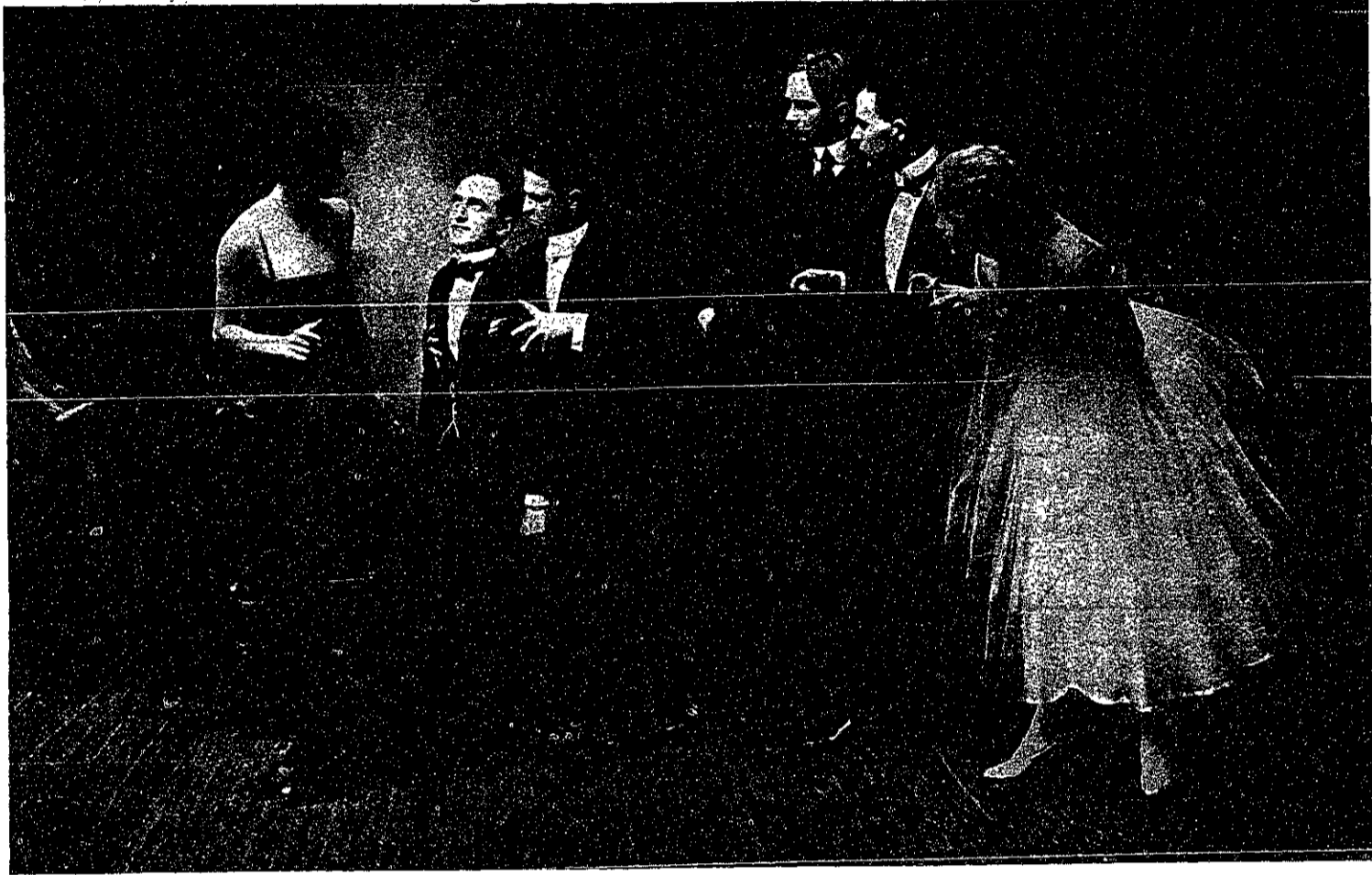
The plot of "Not a Chance" was one of the least apparent things about it. It brings in the many amusing situations brought about by the efforts of a would-be millionaire who wants to make up his own financial reverses by marrying his daughter off to a Harvard "gold coaster." The daughter likes Technology men better than the sons of old John Harvard, however, and proceeds to pick out a poor chemist to fall in love with. The night of the Prom when everything is in readiness for "Jane" to catch her man, she overhears a conversation between the chemist and "Pansy Patch" which makes her think that he is love with "Pansy." He is in reality only rehearsing his lines for the Tech Show. When she is caught in the act of rehearsing a very intimate love scene with the writer of the show she does not deny that she is engaged. This rather breaks up things for everybody and each of the principals thinks that his or her lover is engaged to someone else. The writer of the show, "Dave Randolph," has been cut off without a cent by his father because he had gone into activities against his father's will. He is in love with a girl whom he met at Marblehead. He walked with her one whole evening in the moonlight and left her without even finding out what her name or address was, and he has not heard from her since. Meanwhile Pansy has found out that her Willie Kidder has been "out to Wellesley" and Willie tries to make her forget it by telling her about "the funny little goats on the Andes Mountains." Then comes the mixup of mixups when "Dave Randolph" is apparently making love to "Jane" and "the Girl" to whom he had confessed his love at Marblehead enters.

Things go on in this way for some time with each one misunderstanding everybody else, but finally things begin to become straightened out. Willie

(Continued on page 2)

800 TECHNIQUES ALREADY SOLD— TO BE DISTRIBUTED EVERY DAY

Out of the twelve hundred and fifty Techniques that were signed-up for, it is estimated that approximately eight hundred have already been redeemed. Nearly all of these were redeemed directly after the rush last Tuesday. Those who have sign-up slips will be given until May 5 to redeem them. After that date they will be forfeited and those on the waiting list will be served. One of the management will be in the main lobby daily except Saturdays and Sundays from 1.00-2.00 and from 5.00-6.00 o'clock to distribute books. This is the only time and place at which books can be redeemed.



AERO CLUB MAKES TRIP

Visits Sturtevant Aeroplane Co.
—Forty-Seven Go

Forty-seven members of the Aero Club went on the first trip of the club last Wednesday morning to the factory of the Sturtevant Airplane Co. in Jamaica Plain. The members were escorted through the factory in two sections on account of the large size of the party. The woodworking department, where the wing frames are made, was the first room inspected. The channeled wing spars are made of Alaska spruce and the ribs are laminated to give some time with light pressed steel girders for wing spars, with a view to decreasing the amount of woodwork on a machine and increasing its strength, but up to the present time a satisfactory steel spar has not been developed. The smaller plane frames, however, such as elevators, rudders, etc., are made entirely of steel.

After the wing frames have been assembled, they are taken to the covering room, where they are double surfaced with a very strong grey Irish linen. This is sewed onto the ribs and then "doped" with a cellulose varnish, which shrinks the cloth to drum tightness. The triangular fuselages or main bodies of the airplanes are made entirely of steel, welded wherever possible. The shaping of the steel is done at the B. F. Sturtevant Company, an affiliated concern. This company also makes the powerful eight-cylinder motors for the machines. All the Sturtevant airplanes are equipped with the well-known Deperdussin control, which has become almost world standard because of its simplicity. An interesting part of the factory was the assembling room, in which a nearly complete machine was receiving the finishing touches: chassis, assembly, secondary guying, propeller mounting, etc. Some of the machines are mounted on pontoons, of which there were several different styles in the assembling room, although most of the machines are for land service. At the time of the trip ten machines were under construction, but a great increase in production on account of the present war situation is imminent. The machines under construction are all of the tractor training type for school use.

The next meeting of the Aero Club is planned for Wednesday evening in the Caf. It is expected that Mr. Godfrey Cabot, president of the New England Aero Club, who was instrumental in the establishing of the proposed government school at Squantum, will speak.

FINAL CHEM. SOCIETY MEETING

Food and Rubber Experts Will Speak

The next meeting of the Chemical Society will be held next Thursday evening, April 26, at 7.30 P. M. This is the last meeting of the year before the final banquet. The first speaker will be Professor Woodman, who is the food expert for the State. Professor Woodman will talk on "Vitamines," a very new and important development in food work. Little is known of this subject except that the absence of Vitamines causes a disease known as "beriberi," which is most prevalent in Japan. The other speaker of the evening will be Mr. William Beach Pratt, one of the best known rubber experts in the country. Mr. Pratt has done considerable work on rubber under all conditions, varying from the laboratories of Germany and the United States to the jungles in South America. He is a practical chemist, with many new ideas, which he will propound for those students who are looking forward to research work after graduation. His subject will be a comparison of three sources of rubber: plantation, reclaimed and synthetic. He is a great champion of chemical field work.

This is the last regular meeting of the term, and freshmen are therefore admitted. Plans for the final banquet, to be held May 16, have been practically completed, and they will be announced at the meeting.

RIFLEMEN WILL MAKE TWO TRIPS TO WALNUT HILL RANGE THIS WEEK

The Rifle Club will conduct two trips to the Walnut Hill range this week, one tomorrow and one Saturday. The sign-up sheet for both trips is posted on the bulletin board in Building 10, opposite the Bursar's office; those who desire to go on either of these trips should sign the sheet immediately. The list for tomorrow's trip will be kept open until 5.00 o'clock this afternoon, and that for Saturday's trip will be open till 5.00 o'clock Thursday afternoon. The twenty members who have been to the range the least number of times will be the ones who will be allowed to go. The final list of those who are to take tomorrow's trip will be posted on the bulletin board at the door of the club office in the basement of Building 1 at 9.00 o'clock tomorrow morning, and that of the Saturday trip at 9.00 o'clock Saturday morning. Guns and ammunition will be issued at the office between 12.00 and 12.15 o'clock, from 1.00 to 1.15 o'clock tomorrow, and from 12.00

(Continued on page 2)

SHOW IS GREAT SUCCESS | DECLARES PERCY MARKS

Much Credit is Due Author and
Managers — Very Little Opportunity For Improvement —
Few Lags in Plot

"NOT A CHANCE" FOR CRITICS

Mr. Percy Marks of the English Department was very much pleased with the show. He commented favorably on the acting and staging although he does not seem to have liked the scenery and setting of the second act. His ideas are expressed in the following criticism.

If you are looking, carping critic, for subtle irony, caustic sarcasm, and taunting mockery, throw this page aside and read no further, for the Tech Show of 1917, "Not a Chance," was a production for which we have the highest admiration. Taken all in all, the book, music, lyrics, costumes, and stage effects were far superior to those of the ordinary college musical comedy, and they defy adverse criticism in a fashion altogether disconcerting. It is so much easier to slander cleverly than to praise.

Of course, let us hasten to say, that there were certain things that we did not understand, for instance, the title. What relation did it bear to the plot?—because, even if you didn't happen to notice it, there was a plot. True, we heard, "Not a Chance," sung boldly forth two or three times, but then we heard "Raspberry" quite as often. It must be admitted that "Raspberry" is a very beautiful and thrilling word, but again we must confess our ignorance. We even approached the author for enlightenment, and the only reply we received to our timid query was a sphinx-like smile. Is the man concealing something, or does the word mean only "the fruit of certain species of Rubus, having a thimble shaped berry separable from the receptacle?" We don't know, but some more loquacious—and perhaps better informed—person assured us that the word had something to do with Blossom Seeley, the vaudeville actress. Then we were more confused than ever. Did she ever go to Tech?

We are looking forward expectantly and with high optimism to the day when some ambitious author will write a Tech Show that will not defy every known law of dramatic composition. Mr. McDaniel produced an excellent first act. It moved rapidly, uncovered an amusing plot situation, and offered plenty of opportunity for specialties. Then in the second act he stripped away all the illusion of the stage and showed the audience the Show behind the scenes. It is an interesting trick and amusing for a few minutes, but the novelty soon wears off and the members of the cast have the almost impossible task of getting lines and songs over from a blank stage. There isn't a spot where the eye of the audience can rest; the glaring floodlights strain their eyes; the necessary continuous stage business distracts their attention, and, as a result, in spite of every effort to eliminate the dead spots, there were many of them in the act which certainly did not lend to the final success of the Show. Naturally the plot had difficulty worming its way through the mass of irrelevant material and "local color," and in the third act, if the audience remembered that there was a plot by the time it reappeared, it

(Continued on page 3)

CORRECTION

The Tech wishes to correct a statement made in the issue of April 21. It was C. H. Loomis '17 and not F. P. O'Hara '17 that in the 440-yard dash in the Spring Meet last Friday.

CALENDAR

- Tuesday, April 24, 1917**
1.00 P. M.—Meeting of 1920 Class Officers. Caf.
3.30 P. M.—Tennis Practice. Jarvis Field.
Wednesday, April 25, 1917
2.00 P. M.—Rifle Club Trip to Walnut Hill. Meet at Track 19, North Station.
3.30 P. M.—Tennis. Technology vs. Harvard. Jarvis Field.
Thursday, April 26, 1917
6.30 P. M.—T. C. A. Dinner. Caf.
7.30 P. M.—Chem. Soc. Meeting. Caf.

ENGINEER UNIT NOTICE

All men in the Engineer Unit who are going to camp must deposit one dollar with the First Sergeant not later than five o'clock Friday April 27.



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Although communications may be published unsigned if so requested, the name of the writer must in every case be submitted to the editor. The Tech assumes no responsibility, however, for the facts as stated nor for the opinions expressed. The Editor-in-Chief is always responsible for the opinions expressed in the editorial columns, and the Managing Editor for the matter which appears in the news columns.

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TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 1917

"NOT A CHANCE"

THE management and cast of Tech Show are to be congratulated upon an unusually smooth and polished performance of this year's production. Work on Tech Show differs from that in other activities in that the result of the whole year's collaboration and planning is seen for only a few short hours; leaving so little permanent record their work is hard to appreciate, and the sacrifices which go to make success are difficult of realization except by those who have made them. Nevertheless, the construction of Tech Show requires months of creative labor on the part of the author, coach and principals, not to speak of the supreme effort when the production is finally tested—this, the hardest part of the work, remaining till Junior Week, when the majority of students look for respite from the classroom grind. The cooperation and often indomitable spirit displayed by the men who make Tech Show a reality are in the highest degree a credit to the Institute.

Reassurance seems necessary for the benefit of those who misinterpreted the presence of stretcher and nurses at the Technique Rush, and the spectacular removal of a freshman from the melee. The idea was originally intended to give "atmosphere" to the Rush, and we hasten to state that the freshman was not fatally injured.

The next regular issue of The Tech will appear Friday, April 27.

"NOT A CHANCE"

(Continued from page 1)

Kidder is the first to get out of the difficulty. Then the chemist convinces "Jane" that he was only rehearsing to Pansy, and last but by no means least "Dave" gives a satisfactory explanation of his conduct to "the girl." The climax comes when "the governor," "Dave's" father, comes up on the stage and congratulates "Dave" on his clever play and withdraws his objection to giving "Dave" his inheritance. Then "the governor" offers a half million dollars to the chemist for a new method of making a certain product which he has discovered. This nearly overwhelms the chemist, but he finally masters enough courage to accept the offer. These things are straightened out in good style and the curtain goes down after the final ensemble, "Not a Chance."

The specialties, headed by the ballet, come in the first part of the third act, and according to all indications were of the first order. "Le Soliel," the ballet, features J. Paul Gardner '17 as the Sun God, who in turn is assisted by John S. Coldwell '19 and a company of twelve dancers. "Vamping on the Great White Way," as sung by Walter

S. Frazier '18, experienced a remarkable success and received several encores. "Eat and Grow Thin," by Irving B. McDaniels, was another hit, and "Mac" was loudly applauded in his curtain talk. "Lady Butterfly" and "Egyptian Moon," sung by Herbert C. Williamson '17, concluded the specialties, and the Cafe scene opened with a "Feather Dance" by Ki Kee Chun '20, which was well received. The cast is as follows.

Dave Randolph Tech '17, who is a rising young author with a romance on the side
Walter S. Frazier, '18
Willie Kidder, who will
Charles J. Parsons '19
Henry Dooley '20
Ross Bradford, who is in love with Jane Elliot D. Harrington '18
Oliver Van Allston, who wants to get the long green
Paul D. Peltier '19
Howard Randolph, who has got his
Walter L. Winant '20
Freddie Patter, who probably never will
George E. McLaughlin '18
Steve Holt Herbert C. Williamson '17
"Bud" Weiser Frank S. Owen '20
who are partners in crime
Togo, who is the yellow peril
Kenneth S. M. Davidson '19

REQUIREMENTS FOR MILITARY EXAMS

With regard to the coming examinations for commissions Major Cole has stated a number of requirements which should be complied with in order to tillery as it may not be possible to didate has had any experience in the militia, he should submit evidence to that effect. All candidates for the mobile branches of the army should submit a first, second and third choice of branch, infantry, cavalry, or field artillery as it may not be possible to assign the applicant to the branch he prefers. To avoid any possible delay in receiving notice of the results of the examinations the address or addresses for the next three months of the applicant should be given. In the case of examinations in mathematics, all the work done should be drawn so that credit may be given for correctness of method if the correct answer is not obtained. All questions and answers will be considered confidential by all into whose possession they may come. The schedule of examinations follows:

Monday, April 23—
Physical Examination.
Monday, April 23—
Afternoon. Geography. Time 4 hrs.
Tuesday, April 24—
Morning. Algebra. Time 4 hrs.
Afternoon. Elementary English. Time hrs.
Wednesday, April 25—
Morning. Geometry. Time 4 hrs.
Afternoon. U. S. History and Constitution.
Thursday, April 26—
Morning. Trigonometry. Time 4 hrs.
Afternoon. Elementary Language (Optional). Group II. Time 4 hrs.
Friday, April 27—
Morning. General History. Time 4 hrs.
Afternoon. Elementary Surveying. Time 4 hrs.
Saturday, April 28—
Morning. Optional Subject. Group III. Time 5 hrs.

RIFLE CLUB TRIPS

(Continued from page 1)
to 1.00 o'clock Saturday. For tomorrow's trip members will meet at North Station at the gate to Track 19 at 1.55 o'clock, and for Saturday at the same hour.

The trip that was scheduled for last Wednesday had to be postponed on account of the weather. Men who expected to go on this trip and who had guns and ammunition issued to them are requested by the management to return them to the office at once in order that they may be available for use on tomorrow's trip. This does not apply to those who signed for this Wednesday's trip, who may keep any guns or ammunition that has been issued them for use tomorrow.

George Washington Stammers, who does
George R. Stevens '17
Jane Van Allston, who is in love with Ross
Philip N. Cristal '17
Emma Van Allston, who is her mother
James E. Wallis, Jr., '17
Pansy Patch, who looks it
Frederic S. Britton '19
The Girl, who is to blame for it all
John S. Coldwell '19
Margaret, Millicent, Mildred, Marie, Myrtle, Mollie, who are simply sweet young things
Philip B. Craighead '18, Kenneth F. Akers '20, James J. Wolfson '20, John C. Nash '20, Albert Kruse '20, John W. Leary '18.
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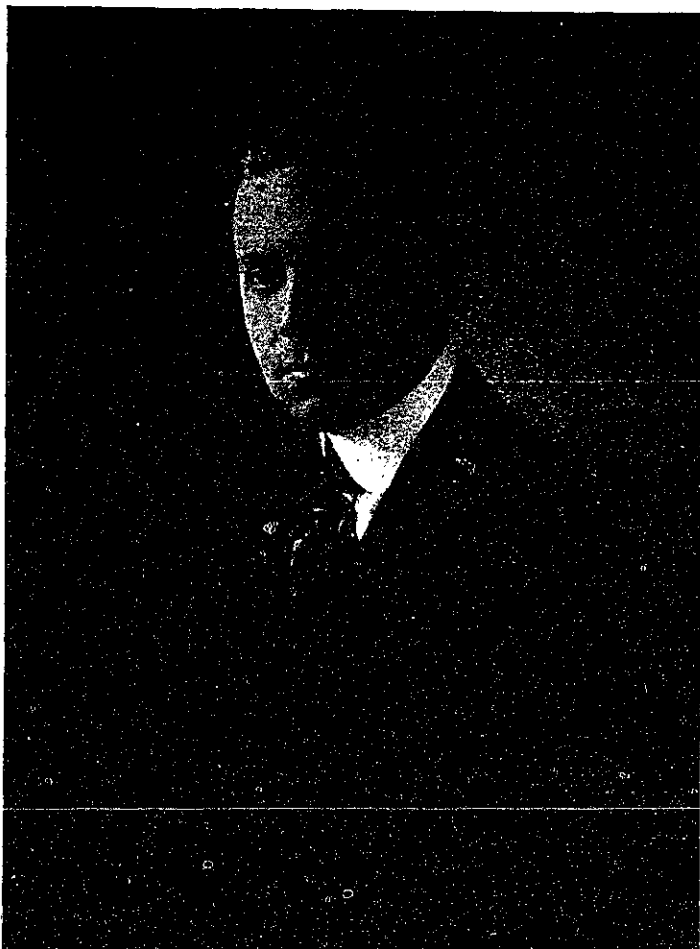
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Author of "Not A Chance"



I. B. McDANIEL

SHOW GREAT SUCCESS

(Continued from page 1)
was somewhat confused if not entirely lost. We wonder how many of those not officially in the secret realized that the plot was based on a case of supposedly mistaken identity. We confess that we did not until the mystery was explained to us with the aid of a binocular altitudinus. We also wonder how many in the audience needed the aid of a similar instrument to understand that the last scene, at least the beginning of it, was a dress rehearsal of the Show, which the hero interrupted to return to the plot, and that from that point on

it was no longer a rehearsal of an imaginary Show but the real Tech Show to which we were introduced in the first act. It is rather confusing, isn't it? And yet, we repeat, that taking the Show as a whole, Mr. McDaniel did his work well. His lines had plenty of snap and life, his songs were bright and catchy, individual situations were very amusing, and the construction of the first act was decidedly better than most of those we yawn through in the average professional musical comedy. Our only regret is that he wrote "Not a Chance" for the effectiveness of special moments and separate acts instead of for the effectiveness of the whole performance.

The management is deserving of the highest praise for its courage in attempting to produce such an elaborate entertainment. Mr. Claudius H. M. Roberts and his staff of assistants did more than well in so smoothly handling a production of such tremendous proportions. Those of us who know Mr. Roberts are not surprised at the success of the Show; but are surprised that his friends are not at the present moment mournfully choosing between broken columns and Gates Ajar.

Scenically the Show was very effective. Most of the sets were beautiful; all of them were distinctive and interesting, or, as one man put it, sub-Urban. The ballet scene was lovely to the last detail, and in designing it Mr. Clark Robinson exhibited a true sense of scenic values and stage artistry. He did quite as well with the first set, and especially with "A Street in Tokio" which was not only bizarre and beautiful but truly oriental without a single jarring western note. We found Mr. Walter Frazier's set for the "Scene Dansant" extremely satisfactory in its black and gold simplicity. Contrary to the general opinion which we heard voiced, we liked the "Roof Garden at the Plazminster" least of all. We have a congenital objection to tinsel and barber-poles, but they probably wouldn't have at the Plazminster.

The various members of the cast did so well that it is impossible to choose a star. Mr. Frazier is a most satisfactory hero in spite of an occasional tendency he has of speaking his lines as if he were reading them. He has unusual poise and ease, which combined with his clever dancing and aptness in getting songs over the footlights, gives one a feeling that all's well on the firing line when he is on the stage.

We know that we voice a universal opinion when we say that we regret extremely Mr. Parsons' illness and his absence from the cast. He has his own delightful way of doing things, and his performance in rehearsal was remarkably clean-cut and finished. However, let's not mourn, but look forward to what he will do for us next year and thank heaven that capable and courageous Mr. Henry Dooley was there to take the part. Mr. Dooley went on the stage at Northampton after having had the lines for one day only, with very little coaching, and without a single rehearsal with the cast. He fought his way through the first performance, did very well at the second, and his work at the National Theatre was remarkably spontaneous and easy, especially if one pauses to consider the great handicap under which he was acting. We respect his courage as much as we admire his ability.

(Continued on page 4)

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SHOW GREAT SUCCESS

(Continued from page 3)

Mr. Cristal accomplished the almost
impossible when he played a fairly seri-
ous part in skirts without making the
audience laugh except when he wanted
to. His success was partly due to the
quality of voice that he used and partly
because he made such a downright lik-
able and winsome woman. As for Mr.
Coldwell—he has absolutely no right to
make such a pretty girl; it's an insult
to every woman in the audience. His
dancing with Mr. Frazier in the last
scene was exquisitely graceful and dain-
ty, and, oh yes, it was astonishing to
hear him reel off his long and difficult
speeches. We don't believe that he was
prompted once.

Mr. Frederick S. Britton deserved ev-
ery bit of the acclaim that he got and
more. He was indeed a delightful "half
portion," his lisp and smile being enough
to fascinate a much less impressionable
man than Willie Kidder. We trust that
he will let us in on the secret when he
finds out what twonfath is—er, was—
are . . .

Mr. Elliot Harrington did everything
that could be done with a rather thank-
less role. It is always difficult to take
second lead, but he managed to squeeze
the last laugh out of his lines and to
make love to Jane as if he meant it.
Mr. Paul Peltier vested Oliver Van All-
ston with the proper dignity and world-
liness. His songs went well as did his
dialogues with Mr. James Wallis, whose
impersonation of Mrs. Van Allston was
so good that we are wondering if he is
concealing a dual personality. His vam-
pirish traits disappeared entirely, and
then broke out in a very violent form in
Mr. Frazier. Mr. Kenneth S. M. David-
son, Mr. George E. McLaughlin, and Mr.
Walter L. Winant, filled minor roles
very satisfactorily, although the last
two are a little apt to indulge in eloc-
utionary tricks which aren't altogether
natural.

All of the music was bright and live-
ly and most of the lyrics were amusing.
"I Wonder" was somewhat reminiscent
of "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now"
of Harry Woodruff fame, but it was
none the less musical and Mr. Frazier
sang it well. "Tech Blues" has a far
more catchy swing to it than most of
the tunes we are accustomed to whistle,
and "Lady Butterfly" has a lovely mel-
ody. Mr. Williamson's clear and well
trained voice showed to better advan-
tage in it than in any of his other
songs, notwithstanding the fact that it
was a little low for him. Mr. Owen did
not get a real chance. His voice is far
superior to the songs allotted to him.

We hardly feel that we have enough
adjectives at our command to do justice
to the ballet. It was so beautifully
staged, artistically conceived, and per-
fectly interpreted that it leaves one
with a feeling that mere words are
hopelessly inadequate means of giving
expression to its perfection. Mr. J.
Paul Gardner cannot be judged by an
amateur standard, but by any standard
he dances marvelously. Mr. Coldwell
made a charmingly graceful opposite for
him, and every member of the ballet
did his share to give us a picture and
story that were aesthetically lovely,
hauntingly beautiful.

We wish someone would tell us the
reason for the many giggles, largely
feminine ones, it is true, that we heard
at the afternoon performance during the
ballet. People who have been raised on
a vaudeville diet and believe the Or-
pheum to be the home of dramatic art
ought not to waste their time in at-
tending a Tech Show. Institute men
have a way of doing artistic things
which demand some intelligence to ap-
preciate.

The orchestra managed the very diffi-
cult music with surprising ease and
success. In fact, no one deserves more
credit than the orchestra and its con-
ductor, Mr. William Howard. With
splendid unselfishness they labored un-
tiringly, working longer at rehearsals
than the cast itself did, ever ready to
repeat, and always there on time an-
xious to lend their best efforts, which
were very good, expecting no applause
or praise. They showed the finest spirit,
and the music they produced was more
than satisfactory.

The various specialties not already
mentioned were either amusing or beau-
tiful. However, we don't quite under-
stand why Mr. McDaniel said certain
things about Wellesley in Northampton
which he did not say in Boston. Do you
suppose he forgot some of his lines? Mr.
Gardner's and Mr. Smith's circle dance
was very lovely, and Mr. Chamberlain's
lyrics and music for the vampire song
were almost as clever as Mr. Frazier's
extraordinary rendition of them. He is
the most "unchastened woman" that we
have ever seen. The exceedingly novel
feather dance, so expertly performed by
Mr. Ke Lee Chun, was perhaps the most
unexpected and certainly not the least
delightful feature of the Show.

Glancing back over the performance
as a whole, we are astonished at the

magnitude of it, and no less astonished
that it should have been produced with
such smoothness and finish. If we are
to give credit where credit is due, we
can not fail to mention Mr. William C.
Duncan who coached the Show with
such sincerity and earnestness that he
won the deepest admiration of all those
who had the pleasure of seeing him
work. Pleasant under the most trying
circumstances, courteous when most
coaches would have revelled in pro-
fanity, interested in the last detail or
suggestion, he finally achieved a result
of which he can feel justly proud and
for which, we are sure, every member
of the cast and management is pro-
foundly grateful.

It was a good Show, wasn't it? We
are glad that we saw it, and as for very
severe adverse criticism—really, there's
—Not a Chance.

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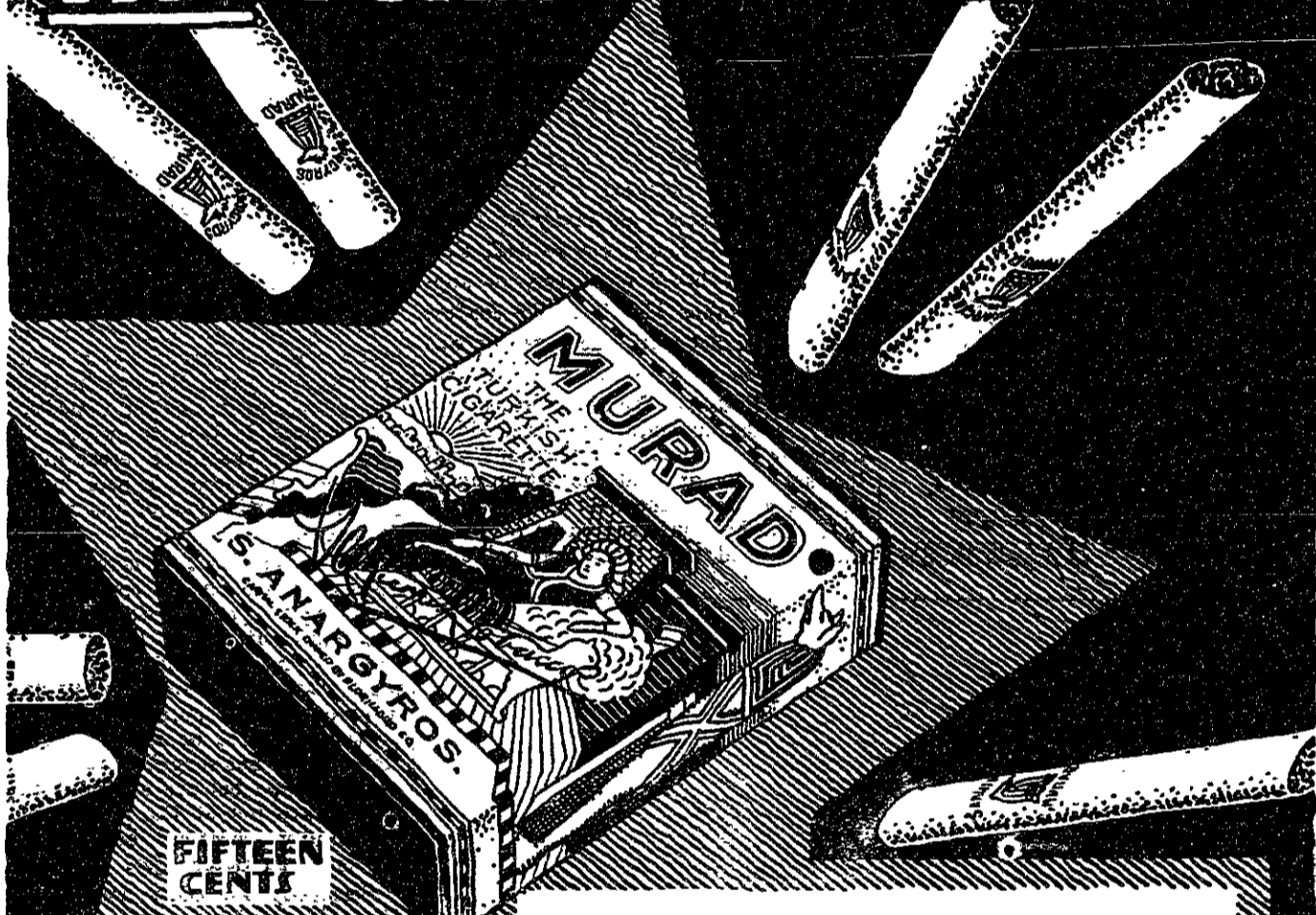
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